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OCA 1393-88

1 2 MAY 1988

OCA FILE

The Honorable Bill Chappell, Jr. Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 12 April 1988 expressing your concern for protecting classified information.

As you are aware, your Surveys and Investigation Staff has been coming here for many years working on various studies. My Office of Congressional Affairs advises me there has never been any security violation from this Staff. We have found them to be professional, discreet individuals who take security seriously.

Office space here at the Agency is at a premium. In order to accommodate the Committee's needs, however, we are pleased that we have been able to identify dedicated secure space at one of our outlying buildings.

Sincerely yours,

Is William H. Webster

William H. Webster Director of Central Intelligence

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Congress of the United States Frouse of Representatives Committee on Appropriations Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 1988

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TELEPHONE: (202) 225-2771

Honorable William H. Webster Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Judge Webster:

In the course of reviewing the annual budget request for the National Foreign intelligence Program, the Committee must handle exceptionally sensitive intelligence information to determine proper program funding levels. Consequently, this information is generally limited to Defense Subcommittee Members and only a few specially cleared Professional Staff. In addition, the Committee has relied only on its own investigative and Professional Staff for selected in-depth reviews of Intelligence programs rather than taken the more traditional Congressional approach of tasking the General Accounting Office, the Congressional Budget Office, the Congressional Research Service, or the Office of Technology Assessment for such supports As Director Casey indicated to the Committee several years ago, "...erosion of the need-to-know principle has to the unnecessary spread of information and а concomitant Increase in the probability or actuality of leaks or compromise. We in the government and you Congress are constantly sensitive to the need for strict control of sensitive information...".

It is with this mutual concern for security in mind that I wish to thank you for making additional dedicated secure space available to support our Committee Investigative and Professional Staff. When taken in conjunction with the existing space you have already generously made available in your Headquarters Complex, I believe the Committee will continue to meet the high

security standards that we all know to be so important in protecting sensitive intelligence programs while we fulfill our Constitutional mandate to provide funds for the common defense.

Sincerely,

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Chairman

Subcommittee on Defense

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